

I support this petition as submitted by the petitioner, Mr. Mark Miller.

Mr. Miller's points about digital modes using increasing bandwidths to carry increasing traffic levels are correct. However, this has naught to do with "innovation" in too many cases. Pactor III for example is being heavily used for Internet email traffic by users who are ocean going yachters. (This is apparent from perusing boating literature easily found in libraries and bookstores.)

That these users have zero interest in amateur radio as defined by 47 CFR Part 97.3 is disturbing but is no reason to limit their access. Their use of the amateur bands however is questionable at best.

Most of this sort of usage should be considered a violation of 97.113(a)(5) that prohibits "Communications, on a regular basis, which could reasonably be furnished alternatively through other radio services." There are commercial email services ("Sailmail" comes to mind) that are the proper avenue for this message traffic.

Many of these Pactor III users simply use the amateur bands to avoid the expense of the more appropriate commercial services. If these users were to use more appropriate commercial services, the crowding issues brought to the fore by commented Bonnie Crystal would dissipate or never have become a concern.

So in closing, enforce the current rules against commercial use of the amateur spectrum and 97.113(a)(5) and Mr. Miller's petition makes perfect sense.